

Listing of the claims:

1. (currently amended) An apparatus comprising: a vacuum filler (3) for stuffing a casing (4) of any kind with a pasty substance, a clip module (1) for applying a clip (2) to a stuffed casing (4), and the clip module (1) being driven by a motor of the vacuum filler (3).
2. (currently amended) ~~An~~ The apparatus according to claim 1, wherein the clip module (1) comprises a part (5) which is adapted to be rotatably driven by the vacuum filler (3).
3. (currently amended) ~~An~~ The apparatus according to claim 2, wherein the vacuum filler comprises a part (8) which is adapted to be rotatably driven and by means of which the clip module (1) can be driven.
4. (currently amended) ~~An~~ The apparatus according to claim 1, wherein the clip module (1) and the vacuum filler (3) have arranged between them a shaft (6), the shaft (6) being connected to the vacuum filler (3) for driving the clip module (1).
5. (currently amended) ~~An~~ The apparatus according to claim 1, wherein the clip module (1) comprises a displacer (7).
6. (currently amended) ~~An~~ The apparatus according to claim 1, and means provided for inserting one of a thread and a loop when the clips are being set.
7. (currently amended) ~~An~~ The apparatus according to claim 1, and a separator (16) is provided for separating respective portions.
8. (currently amended) ~~An~~ The apparatus according to claim 1, and a servomotor (9) of the vacuum filler (3) used for driving the clip module (1).
9. (currently amended) ~~An~~ The apparatus according to claim 1, and a control unit (10) is provided for controlling the stuffing, the portioning and the clipping.

10. (currently amended) ~~An~~ The apparatus according to claim 1, and a twist-off unit (11) is provided adjacent to a stuffing means of the vacuum filler (3).

11. (currently amended) ~~An~~ The apparatus according to claim 1, and an automatic suspension unit (12) for selectively suspending the casing (4) is provided, the suspension unit (12) being one of controlled and driven by the vacuum filler (3) and the clip module (1).

12-16. (canceled)

17. (currently amended) ~~An~~ The apparatus according to claim 4, wherein the shaft (6) is a horizontally-extending shaft.

18. (currently amended) ~~An~~ The apparatus according to claim 8, wherein the servomotor is adapted to be used for one of twisting off and for driving other functions:

19. (currently amended) ~~An~~ The apparatus according to claim 9, wherein the control ~~circuit~~ unit is provided for additionally one of positioning, clipping, and both positioning and clipping.

20. (canceled)